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<p>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)</p>				<i>Complete if Known</i>			
				Application Number		<i>10 1756 971</i>	
				Filing Date		January 13, 2004	
				First Named Inventor		Bianchi	
				Group Art Unit			
				Examiner Name			
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket No. 4002-3468			

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number+Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Application of Cited Document	Pages, Column, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
<i>sh</i>		4,309,488	01-05-1982	Heide et al.	
		4,626,392	12-02-1986	Kondo et al.	
		4,636,217	01-13-1987	Ogilvie et al.	
		4,636,314	03-31-1987	Takagi et al.	
		4,687,675	08-18-1987	Nakano et al.	
		4,714,469	12-22-1987	Kenna	
		4,722,870	02-02-1988	White	
		4,820,305	04-11-1989	Harms et al.	
		4,834,757	05-30-1989	Brantingan	
		4,878,915	11-07-1989	Brantingan	
		4,917,703	04-17-1990	Albrektsson	
		4,950,296	08-21-1990	McIntyre	
		4,961,740	10-09-1990	Ray et al.	
		4,976,738	12-11-1990	Frey et al.	
		5,002,583	03-26-1991	Pitaru et al.	
		5,015,247	05-14-1991	Michelson	
		5,026,373	06-25-1991	Ray et al.	
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		5,258,029	11-02-1993	Chu et al.	
		5,282,861	02-01-1994	Kaplan	
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		5,330,826	07-19-1994	Taylor et al.	
		5,346,492	09-13-1994	Morgan	
		5,458,638	10-17-1995	Kuslich et al.	
		5,489,308	02-06-1996	Kuslich et al.	
		5,514,180	05-07-1996	Heggeness et al.	
		5,591,235	01-07-1997	Kuslich	
<i>sh</i>		5,593,409	01-14-1997	Michelson	

Examiner Signature <i>Shayla B. Johnson</i>	Date Considered	4-9-06
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				Group Art Unit	
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				Attorney Docket No. 4002-3468	

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		Number-Kind Code ³ (if known)			
<i>SS</i>		5,728,159	03-17-1998	Stoever et al.	
		5,972,368	10-26-1999	McKay	
		5,810,819	09-22-1998	Errico et al.	
		5,814,084	09-29-1998	Grivas et al.	
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		6,017,343	01-25-2000	Rogozinski	
		6,033,438	03-07-2000	Bianchi et al.	
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		6,111,164	08-29-2000	Rainey et al.	
		6,120,506	09-19-2000	Kohrs et al.	
		6,258,125	07-10-2001	Paul et al.	
		6,391,058	03-21-2002	Kuslich et al.	
		6,409,765	06-25-2002	Bianchi et al.	
<i>SS</i>		6,500,206	12-31-2002	Bryan	

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cts No.*	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s) publisher city and/or country where published			
<i>SS</i>		<u>Bone Graft Surgery in Disease, Injury and Deformity</u> ; Fred H. Albee, M.D.; Published by D. Appleton-Century Company, Copyright 1940.			
		"Laparoscopic Bone Dowel Surgical Technique", Sofamor Danek, Memphis, Tennessee, 1995.			
		"Musculoskeletal Transplant Foundation" Brochure, Apr. 1996.			
		"Threaded Bone Dowel" by LISpine 1997 Hohmann Enterprises Inc., Apr. 1997.			
<i>SS</i>		"New and Innovative Fusion Techniques" by John J. Vaughan, MD The Kentucky Spines Inst., Dec. 1998.			

Examiner Signature	<i>Aug 30 2004</i>	Data Considered	4-B-06
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of

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Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/756,971
Filing Date	January 13, 2004
First Named Inventor	Bianchi
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	

Attorney Docket No. 4002-3468

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Examiner initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Application of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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		3,486,505	05-1967	Morrison	
		3,848,601	11-1974	Ma	
		4,545,374	10-1985	Jacobson	
		4,736,738	04-1988	Lipovsek et al.	
		4,743,256	05-1988	Brantigan	
		4,877,020	10-1989	Vich	
		5,062,845	11-1991	Kuslich	
		5,190,548	03-1993	Davis	
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		5,306,309	04-1994	Wagner et al.	
		5,329,846	07-1994	Bonutti	
		5,423,825	06-1995	Levine	
		5,423,855	06-1995	Marienne	
		5,425,772	06-1995	Brantigan	
		5,443,514	08-1995	Steffee	
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		5,609,636	03-1997	Kohrs et al.	
		5,645,598	07-1997	Brosnahan, III	
		5,669,909	09-1997	Zdeblick et al.	
		5,709,683	01-1998	Bagby	
		5,716,355	02-1998	Jackson et al.	
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		5,766,253	06-1998	Brosnahan, III	
		5,782,830	07-1998	Farris	

Examiner Signature	<i>Douglas J. M.</i>	Date Considered	7 - 9 - 06
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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		
		5,857,995	01-1999	Thomas et al.	
		5,904,719	05-1999	Ernico et al.	
		5,989,289	11-1999	Coates	
		6,033,830	03-2000	Bianchi	
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		6,210,506	09-2000	Kohrs et al.	
		6,375,681	04-2002	Truscott	

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		Country Code ⁴ -Number ⁵ -Kind Code ⁶ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
		EP 0 077 159 A	04-1983			
		GB 2 207 607 A	02-1989			
		EP 0 307 241	03-1989			
		DE 37 41 493 A1	06-1989			
		EP 0 392 076	10-1990			
		WO 95/08306	03-1995			
		WO 95/15133	06-1995			
		WO 96/22747	08-1996			
		WO 96/40013	12-1996			
		WO 97/13378	04-1997			
		WO 97/15248	05-1997			
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		WO 01/70144	09-2001			

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/JY		AcroMed Spine Tools, <i>PLIF Instruments</i> (undated)
/JY		AcroMed, <i>Brantigan I/F Cage</i> , (undated)
/JY		AcroMed, <i>Brantigan I/F Cage™ for PLIF</i> (1991)
/JY		Sofamor Danek, <i>Surgical Technique Using Bone Dowel Instrumentation for Posterior Approach</i> , LIT.PLIF.ST96 (1996)
/JY		Sofamor Danek, <i>Surgical Tips Posterior Approach</i> (1998)
/JY		University of Florida Tissue Bank, Inc. <i>Allograft Catalog</i> (1998)

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